WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for reporting status information from a plurality of content exchanges to a remote location, the system comprising:

a first content exchange comprising a first plurality of content object portions;

a second content exchange comprising a second plurality of content object portions;

a server at the remote location, wherein the server comprises a first subset of the first plurality of content object portions and a second subset of the second plurality of content object portions;

a first datalink that transports a first catalog of the first subset between the first content exchange and the server; and

a second datalink that transports a second catalog of the second subset between the second content exchange and the server.

2. The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second catalogs comprise a plurality of entries.

3. The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 2, wherein at least one of the plurality of entries comprises a content object filename, a path and a server name.

4. The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second datalinks transport over the Internet.

5. The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 1, wherein the first subset of the first plurality of content object portions is purged from the first content exchange when the server becomes unavailable.

6. The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 1, wherein the first datalink transports status information relating to the first content exchange.

45

7.   The system for reporting status information from the plurality of content exchanges to the remote location as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second content exchanges checks an operational status of the server.

8.   A method for reporting information to remote locations in a content distribution system, the method comprising:

determining a first catalog of a first plurality of content object portions associated with a first server at a first remote location;

determining a second catalog of a second plurality of content object portions associated with a second server at a second remote location;

transporting the first catalog to the first remote location;

transporting the second catalog to the second remote location;

detecting changes to one of the first and second catalogs; and

transporting the changes to one of the first and second remote locations.

9.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the content distribution system as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

determining the first server is unavailable; and

purging the first plurality of content object portions in response to the determining the first server is unavailable.

10.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the content distribution system as recited in claim 8, further comprising reporting to the first and second servers status information at a predetermined interval.

11.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the content distribution system as recited in claim 8, further comprising reporting to the first and second servers an impending unavailability of a content exchange.

12.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the content distribution system as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

receiving a preload command; and

preloading at least one content object portion from a remote server in response to the receiving the preload command.

1   13.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the
2   content distribution system as recited in claim 8, further comprising purging information
3   from a content location database when a content exchange becomes unavailable.

1   14.   The method for reporting information to remote locations in the
2   content distribution system as recited in claim 8, wherein the transporting comprises
3   transporting via the Internet.

1   15.   A method for tracking information in a content distribution system,
2   comprising:
3   receiving a first content catalog of first content object portions from a first
4   remote computer;
5   receiving a second content catalog of second content object portions from
6   a second remote computer;
7   updating a content database with information from the first and second
8   content catalogs;
9   receiving a third content catalog from the first remote computer that is
10   different from the first content catalog;
11   receiving a fourth content catalog from the second remote computer that is
12   different from the second content catalog; and
13   ,   updating the content database with information from the third and fourth
14   content catalogs.

1   16.   The method for tracking information in a content distribution
2   system recited in claim 15, further comprising updating the content database when one of
3   the first and second remote computers is unavailable.

1   17.   The method for tracking information in a content distribution
2   system recited in claim 15, further comprising receiving status information related to one
3   of the first and second remote computers.

1   18.   The method for tracking information in a content distribution
2   system recited in claim 15, further comprising providing status information to the first
3   and second computers.

47

1   19.   The method for tracking information in a content distribution
2   system recited in claim 15, further comprising notifying the first and second computers of
3   impending unavailability.

1   20.   The method for tracking information in a content distribution
2   system recited in claim 15, further comprising receiving notification from one of the first
3   and second computers of impending unavailability.